

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Docket

Application of:  
Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC  
for authority to conduct scheduled passenger operations as commuter air carrier under 49 U.S.C.  
41738

**Application of Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC**

Communications with respect to this document should be sent to:

Kenai Aviation

101 N Willow St

Kenai, AK

907-252-4878

[joel@kenaiaviation.com](mailto:joel@kenaiaviation.com)

2/10/2022

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## **Application of Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC**

Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC submits this application for authority to operate scheduled passenger service as a commuter air carrier under section 41738 of Title 49 of the United States Code (“the Statute”).

Applicant requests authority to engage in scheduled passenger operations as a commuter and proposes to operate the following:

Our intent to begin scheduled service with a target date of May 1, 2022. Our plan includes operating scheduled flights originating from Kenai Municipal Airport (ENA) (Kenai, AK) and serving Anchorage International Airport (Anchorage, AK), Valdez Pioneer Field (VDZ) (Valdez, AK), and Homer Airport (HOM) (Homer, AK). This schedule would be published as follows with flights running Monday-Friday:

- 0430 ENA-ANC
- 0530 ANC-HOM
- 0630 HOM-ANC
- 0730 ANC-VDZ
- 0830 VDZ-ANC
- 1200 ANC-ENA
- 1500 ENA-ANC
- 1730 ANC-HOM
- 1830 HOM-ANC
- 1930 ANC-VDZ
- 2030 VDZ-ANC
- 2230 ANC-ENA

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In support of its application Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC states the following with references to the fitness requirements of 14 CFR 204.3:

### **Application Information (204.3(a-c))**

Applicant is a limited liability company organized on 1/17/2018 under the laws of the State of Alaska. Its address, telephone number, and email are:

101 N Willow St

Kenai, AK 99611

907-283-4124

907-252-4878

[joel@kenaiaviation.com](mailto:joel@kenaiaviation.com)

### **Business License (204.3(d))**

SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENT '204.3(d) KAO BUSINESS LICENSE'

### **Affidavit of Citizenship (204.3(e))**

SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENT '204.3(e) AFFIDAVIT OF CITIZENSHIP'

Applicant is a citizen of the United States as defined in section 40102(a)(15) of the Statute. The owners of Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC are Joel Caldwell, Jacob Caldwell, and Caleb Caldwell. All three of these individuals are citizens of the United States.

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## **Key Personnel (204.3(f))**

All Kenai Aviation key personnel are citizens of the United States of America

**Joel Caldwell (Director of Operations), 51565 Salty Cir, Kenai, AK 99611**

Owner (90%)

Joel Caldwell (see attached resume - 204.3(f)-Exhibit A) is the Director of Operations for Kenai Aviation. He is responsible for:

- Compliance with all Federal Aviation Regulations in regard to the overall operations of Kenai Aviation operations
- Currency of General Operations Manual, Safety Management Systems, Operations Specifications, and all other issues related to compliance with FARs as an overall operation
- Supervision of Director of Maintenance, Chief Pilot, and Director of Station Operations as their duties relate to the overall compliance with all regulations related to the operations of Kenai Aviation
- Communication with FAA and all regulatory agencies regarding continuous compliance with the Air Carrier Certificate

**Keith Ham (Chief Pilot), PO Box 88, Kasilof, AK 99610**

- Keith Ham (see attached resume - 204(f)-Exhibit B) is the Chief Pilot for Kenai Aviation. He is responsible for:
- Supervision, training, scheduling, and documenting currency for the pilots of Kenai Aviation
- Ensuring compliance with all applicable Federal Aviation Regulations as relates to all pilot currencies and activities
- Maintaining appropriate flight and training manuals
- Maintaining pilot training records

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**David Schmidt (Director of Maintenance), PO Box 597, Kenai, AK 99611**

David Schmidt (see attached resume - 204.3(f)-Exhibit C) is the Director of Maintenance for Kenai Aviation. He is responsible for:

- Ensuring the continued airworthiness of the entire Kenai Aviation fleet
- Hiring, training, scheduling, and supervision of maintenance personnel
- Supervising the purchasing, stocking, and tracking of all aircraft parts
- Communicating with the appropriate regulatory agencies regarding the airworthiness and maintenance status of all Kenai Aviation aircraft
- Reporting to the other principles of Kenai Aviation the airworthiness status, maintenance scheduling, and all other airworthiness concerns regarding the Kenai Aviation fleet.
- Maintaining appropriate maintenance manuals and documentation

**Jacob Caldwell (Director of Station Operations), 34840 Poppy Wood St, Soldotna, AK 99669**

Owner (5%)

Jacob Caldwell (see attached resume - 204.3(f)-Exhibit D) is the Director of Station Operations for Kenai Aviation. He is responsible for:

- Supervision, maintenance, and regulatory compliance of all aspects of Kenai Aviation station operations
- Management of dispatch, flight coordination and scheduling, ground handling operations, customer service, and facility maintenance
- Communications with all regulatory agencies and airport authorities in relation to continuing compliance of our station operations

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## **Owners (204.3(g))**

**Joel Caldwell, 51265 Salty Circle, Kenai, AK 99611**

Joel Caldwell holds 90% of the business and is the father of the other two owners, Jacob and Caleb Caldwell. He is a citizen of the United States of America (See attached copy of passport)

**Jacob Caldwell, 34840 Poppy Wood St, Soldotna, AK 99669**

Jacob Caldwell holds 5% of the business and is the son of Joel Caldwell and brother of Caleb Caldwell. He is a citizen of the United States of America (See attached copy of passport)

**Caleb Caldwell, 5612 E 40th Ave B303, Anchorage, AK 99504**

Caleb Caldwell holds 5% of the business and is the son of Joel Caldwell and brother of Jacob Caldwell. He is a citizen of the United States of America (See attached copy of birth certificate and photo ID)

## **Subsidiaries (204.3(h))**

N/A - Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC has no subsidiaries

## **Shares in Other Carriers (204.3(i))**

N/A - Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC has no financial or controlling interest in other carriers

## **Corporation Filings (204.3(j))**

N/A - Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC is not an incorporated business

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### **Historical Financial Documents (204.3(k))**

Attached with this document are the last 3 years of Income Statements (204.3(k) Exhibits A, B, C) and Balance Sheets (204.3(k) Exhibits D, E, F) for Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC. All financial documents were prepared by Fireweed Bookkeeping, LLC, a private bookkeeping firm owned by Kathleen Schmidt. All documents were prepared under tax basis accrual accounting principles.

### **Outstanding Judgements for More than \$5000 (204.3(l))**

N/A - Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC has no outstanding judgments

### **Outstanding Judgements for \$5000 or Less (204.3(m))**

N/A - Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC has no outstanding judgments

### **Current Fleet (204.3(n))**

Applicant is currently engaged in on-demand flight operations within the State of Alaska. Our fleet at this time consists of one 5-passenger Cessna 206 and one 9-passenger Beechcraft Super King Air B200. All aircraft in our fleet are leased.

With the launch of this schedule we intend to lease a 9-passenger Tecnam P2012 "Traveller". Our goal is to begin the conformity process for this new aircraft with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to achieve an April delivery date.

SEE ATTACHED FILE '204.3(N) AFFIDAVIT OF SAFETY COMPLIANCE'

### **Pending Investigations (204.3(o))**

N/A - Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC has no pending investigations, formal complaints, or enforcement actions

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### **Charges of Unfair Business (204.3(p))**

N/A - Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC has no outstanding charges for unfair business practices

### **Aircraft Accidents or Incidents (204.3(q))**

N/A - Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC has not had any accidents or incidents in the last year, nor are there any active investigations

### **Brief History of the Operator (204.3(r))**

In January of 2018, the Caldwell family purchased Kenai Aviation, an FAA Part 135 Air Carrier that was established in 1961. After the passing of its original founder, the company chose to begin the process of ceasing operations. The Caldwell family, upon the purchase of the certificate, halted this operational cessation and updated all of the documentation including all manuals and operation specifications with the intent to operate on-demand charters and begin scheduled service as a commuter. Due to the declining economy and then Covid-19, Kenai Aviation was forced to delay the launch of scheduled service and contrary to our original business plan, maintain the operation with only on-demand charter service. Kenai Aviation is now prepared to provide scheduled service as we have grown our fleet and made preparations for staff, facilities, and the logistics required in each of our proposed stations. Our business plan requires the synergy of our on-demand operation alongside the scheduled commuter service. The two working in harmony is our recipe for financial success.

### **Description of Current Oversight Agencies (204.3(s))**

Kenai Aviation Operations, LLC currently operates under the jurisdiction of the Juneau, AK Flight Standards District Office of the Federal Aviation Administration. Any additional FAA authority needed for our proposed operations would be submitted to our Principal Operations Inspector, Jonathan Percy, our Principal Maintenance Inspector, Frederick Adams, and our Principal Avionics Inspector, Daniel McMillan.



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## **Service to be Operated (204.3(t))**

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- 1500 ENA-ANC
- 1730 ANC-HOM
- 1830 HOM-ANC
- 1930 ANC-VDZ
- 2030 VDZ-ANC
- 2230 ANC-ENA

This schedule would be flown with the Tecnam P2012 and the Beechcraft Super King Air B200 would be available to backup the flights in the event that the Tecnam is down for maintenance.

Attached to this application is forecasts for Income Statements and Balance Sheets for first 3 years of operation. This forecast is accrual based and has notes throughout on expected load factors each month.

SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENT '204.3(t) FINANCIAL FORECAST'

## **Signed OST 4523 (204.3(u))**

SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENT '204.3(u) SIGNED OST 4523'

## **Application Certification (204.3(v))**

SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENT '204.3(v) SIGNED APPLICANT CERTIFICATION'